

Introduced by Senator Kehoe

February 18, 2011

An act to add Section 50034 to the Government Code, and to amend Section 44272 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to energy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 730, as introduced, Kehoe. Local government: online building permit form: electric vehicle charging.

(1) Existing law sets forth the powers and duties common to cities and counties.

This bill would require a city, county, or city and county to make available an online building permit form for residential and nonresidential property owners who seek to install vehicle charging equipment, and to approve an online building permit submitted by such an owner within 24 hours of its receipt. The bill would also require the home building inspector of each city, county, or city and county that approves an online building permit to review the work completed under the permit within 7 days of the permit's approval. By adding to the duties of local officials, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(2) Existing law establishes the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program, administered by the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission), to provide to specified entities, upon appropriation by the Legislature, grants, loans, loan guarantees, revolving loans, or other appropriate measures, for the development and deployment of innovative technologies that transform California's fuel and vehicle types to help attain the state's climate change goals. Existing law specifies that only certain projects or programs are eligible for funding, including a program

to provide funding for homeowners who purchase an electric vehicle to offset costs associated with modifying electrical sources to include a residential plug-in electric vehicle charging station.

This bill would, additionally, specify projects eligible for funding under the program to include a program to provide funding to local governments that adopt an expedited building permit process, meeting specified requirements, for modifying electrical sources to include a residential plug-in electric vehicle charging station.

(3) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 50034 is added to the Government Code,
2 to read:

3 50034. (a) Each local agency shall make available an online
4 building permit form for residential and nonresidential property
5 owners who seek to install vehicle charging equipment.

6 (b) The appropriate local agency shall approve an online
7 building permit submitted by a residential or nonresidential
8 property owner within 24 hours of its receipt.

9 (c) The home building inspector of each local agency that
10 approves an online building permit shall review the work
11 completed under the permit within seven days of the approval of
12 the original permit.

13 SEC. 2. Section 44272 of the Health and Safety Code is
14 amended to read:

15 44272. (a) The Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle
16 Technology Program is hereby created. The program shall be
17 administered by the commission. The commission shall implement
18 the program by regulation pursuant to the requirements of Chapter
19 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of
20 Title 2 of the Government Code. The program shall provide, upon
21 appropriation by the Legislature, competitive grants, revolving
22 loans, loan guarantees, loans, or other appropriate funding

1 measures, to public agencies, vehicle and technology entities,
2 businesses and projects, public-private partnerships, workforce
3 training partnerships and collaboratives, fleet owners, consumers,
4 recreational boaters, and academic institutions to develop and
5 deploy innovative technologies that transform California's fuel
6 and vehicle types to help attain the state's climate change policies.
7 The emphasis of this program shall be to develop and deploy
8 technology and alternative and renewable fuels in the marketplace,
9 without adopting any one preferred fuel or technology.

10 (b) A project funded by the commission shall be approved at a
11 noticed public hearing of the commission and shall be consistent
12 with the priorities established by the investment plan adopted
13 pursuant to Section 44272.5.

14 (c) The commission shall provide preferences to those projects
15 that maximize the goals of the Alternative and Renewable Fuel
16 and Vehicle Technology Program, based on the following criteria,
17 as applicable:

18 (1) The project's ability to provide a measurable transition from
19 the nearly exclusive use of petroleum fuels to a diverse portfolio
20 of viable alternative fuels that meet petroleum reduction and
21 alternative fuel use goals.

22 (2) The project's consistency with existing and future state
23 climate change policy and low-carbon fuel standards.

24 (3) The project's ability to reduce criteria air pollutants and air
25 toxics and reduce or avoid multimedia environmental impacts.

26 (4) The project's ability to decrease, on a life cycle basis, the
27 discharge of water pollutants or any other substances known to
28 damage human health or the environment, in comparison to the
29 production and use of California Phase 2 Reformulated Gasoline
30 or diesel fuel produced and sold pursuant to California diesel fuel
31 regulations set forth in Article 2 (commencing with Section 2280)
32 of Chapter 5 of Division 3 of Title 13 of the California Code of
33 Regulations.

34 (5) The project does not adversely impact the sustainability of
35 the state's natural resources, especially state and federal lands.

36 (6) The project provides nonstate matching funds.

37 (7) The project provides economic benefits for California by
38 promoting California-based technology firms, jobs, and businesses.

39 (8) The project uses existing or proposed fueling infrastructure
40 to maximize the outcome of the project.

1 (9) The project's ability to reduce on a life cycle assessment
2 greenhouse gas emissions by at least 10 percent, and higher
3 percentages in the future, from current reformulated gasoline and
4 diesel fuel standards established by the state board.

5 (10) The project's use of alternative fuel blends of at least 20
6 percent, and higher blend ratios in the future, with a preference
7 for projects with higher blends.

8 (11) The project drives new technology advancement for
9 vehicles, vessels, engines, and other equipment, and promotes the
10 deployment of that technology in the marketplace.

11 (d) Only the following shall be eligible for funding:

12 (1) Alternative and renewable fuel projects to develop and
13 improve alternative and renewable low-carbon fuels, including
14 electricity, ethanol, dimethyl ether, renewable diesel, natural gas,
15 hydrogen, and biomethane, among others, and their feedstocks
16 that have high potential for long-term or short-term
17 commercialization, including projects that lead to sustainable
18 feedstocks.

19 (2) Demonstration and deployment projects that optimize
20 alternative and renewable fuels for existing and developing engine
21 technologies.

22 (3) Projects to produce alternative and renewable low-carbon
23 fuels in California.

24 (4) Projects to decrease the overall impact of an alternative and
25 renewable fuel's life cycle carbon footprint and increase
26 sustainability.

27 (5) Alternative and renewable fuel infrastructure, fueling
28 stations, and equipment. The preference in paragraph (10) of
29 subdivision (c) shall not apply to renewable diesel or biodiesel
30 infrastructure, fueling stations, and equipment used solely for
31 renewable diesel or biodiesel fuel.

32 (6) Projects to develop and improve light-, medium-, and
33 heavy-duty vehicle technologies that provide for better fuel
34 efficiency and lower greenhouse gas emissions, alternative fuel
35 usage and storage, or emission reductions, including propulsion
36 systems, advanced internal combustion engines with a 40 percent
37 or better efficiency level over the current market standard,
38 light-weight materials, energy storage, control systems and system
39 integration, physical measurement and metering systems and
40 software, development of design standards and testing and

1 certification protocols, battery recycling and reuse, engine and fuel
2 optimization electronic and electrified components, hybrid
3 technology, plug-in hybrid technology, battery electric vehicle
4 technology, fuel cell technology, and conversions of hybrid
5 technology to plug-in technology through the installation of safety
6 certified supplemental battery modules.

7 (7) Programs and projects that accelerate the commercialization
8 of vehicles and alternative and renewable fuels including buy-down
9 programs through near-market and market-path deployments,
10 advanced technology warranty or replacement insurance,
11 development of market niches, supply-chain development, and
12 research related to the pedestrian safety impacts of vehicle
13 technologies and alternative and renewable fuels.

14 (8) Programs and projects to retrofit medium- and heavy-duty
15 on-road and nonroad vehicle fleets with technologies that create
16 higher fuel efficiencies, including alternative and renewable fuel
17 vehicles and technologies, idle management technology, and
18 aerodynamic retrofits that decrease fuel consumption.

19 (9) Infrastructure projects that promote alternative and renewable
20 fuel infrastructure development connected with existing fleets,
21 public transit, and existing transportation corridors, including
22 physical measurement or metering equipment and truck stop
23 electrification.

24 (10) Workforce training programs related to alternative and
25 renewable fuel feedstock production and extraction, renewable
26 fuel production, distribution, transport, and storage,
27 high-performance and low-emission vehicle technology and high
28 tower electronics, automotive computer systems, mass transit fleet
29 conversion, servicing, and maintenance, and other sectors or
30 occupations related to the purposes of this chapter.

31 (11) Block grants administered by not-for-profit technology
32 entities for multiple projects, education and program promotion
33 within California, and development of alternative and renewable
34 fuel and vehicle technology centers.

35 (12) Life cycle and multimedia analyses, sustainability and
36 environmental impact evaluations, and market, financial, and
37 technology assessments performed by a state agency to determine
38 the impacts of increasing the use of low-carbon transportation fuels
39 and technologies, and to assist in the preparation of the investment
40 plan and program implementation.

1 (13) (A) A program to provide funding for homeowners who
2 purchase a plug-in electric vehicle to offset costs associated with
3 modifying electrical sources to include a residential plug-in electric
4 vehicle charging station. In establishing this program, the
5 commission shall consider funding criteria to maximize the public
6 benefit of the program.

7 (B) *A program to provide funding to local governments that*
8 *adopt an expedited building permit process for modifying electrical*
9 *sources to include a residential plug-in electric vehicle charging*
10 *station. In order to receive funding pursuant to this subparagraph,*
11 *the expedited building permit process shall allow an applicant to*
12 *apply for a building permit using an Internet Web site and shall*
13 *include timely inspection of the completed modifications.*

14 (e) The commission may make a single source or sole source
15 award pursuant to this section for applied research. The same
16 requirements set forth in Section 25620.5 of the Public Resources
17 Code shall apply to awards made on a single source basis or a sole
18 source basis. This subdivision does not authorize the commission
19 to make a single source or sole source award for a project or
20 activity other than for applied research.

21 (f) The commission may do both of the following:

22 (1) Contract with the Treasurer to expend funds through
23 programs implemented by the Treasurer, if the expenditure is
24 consistent with all of the requirements of this article and Article
25 1 (commencing with Section 44270).

26 (2) Contract with small business financial development
27 corporations established by the Business, Transportation and
28 Housing Agency to expend funds through the Small Business Loan
29 Guarantee Program if the expenditure is consistent with all of the
30 requirements of this article and Article 1 (commencing with Section
31 44270).

32 SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
33 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
34 a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service
35 charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or
36 level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section
37 17556 of the Government Code.

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